

IN RECOGNITION OF NICKELODEON
AND THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF
"DORA THE EXPLORER"

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, I rise today on behalf of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus to recognize Nickelodeon for their commitment to educational programming that promotes the ideals of multiculturalism, bilingualism, and diversity. August 14, 2010 marked the 10-year anniversary of the popular animated television educational program "Dora the Explorer," and this week the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute will recognize Nickelodeon at the organization's 33rd Annual Public Policy Conference.

As co-chair of the Communications, Technology, and Arts Taskforce, I work with my colleagues to promote the advancement of Latino arts and culture in all mediums, including print, broadcast, and the Internet. Achieving these goals requires forming partnerships with local, state, and national groups, including artists, non-profit advocacy organizations, and corporate broadcasters and programmers.

Nickelodeon is one of these important partners that has been successful in incorporating the values of multiculturalism, bilingualism, and diversity by producing shows like "Dora the Explorer." The interactive children's television show, created by Chris Gifford, Eric Weiner, and Valerie Walsh, ranks among the top-rated shows in nearly every major market in the world, and is syndicated to TV broadcasters in 151 markets and translated into 30 languages. The program teaches Spanish in the United States, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and Ireland, and teaches English in most other international markets.

The show's main character, Dora Marquez, has become an ambassador of Latino language and culture, reaching millions of children around the world. The show's creators have been able to use the full power of animation to transform the television medium as a force for bridging cultural gaps and educating children about diversity.

I also applaud Nickelodeon for marking the 10th anniversary of "Dora the Explorer," with a multi-year, multi-platform, pro-social campaign titled "Beyond the Backpack." This program, named for Dora's iconic backpack, champions overall school readiness for preschoolers as they prepare for the important adventure of starting school.

In partnership with an advisory committee that includes the National Parent Teacher Association, PTA, and other experts and leaders in school readiness, "Beyond the Backpack" will provide parents with tools and resources that can help children prepare for a well-rounded, positive experience as they enter kindergarten. Programs like these will promote education to all children and assist parents.

I am pleased to recognize Nickelodeon on the 10th anniversary of "Dora the Explorer," and commend the network for their commitment to educational programming that promotes the ideals of multiculturalism, bilingualism, and diversity.

CLEAN RENEWABLE ENERGY
INVESTMENT ACT OF 2010

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, the main issue facing public power providers, corporate electric companies, and tribal utilities who wish to generate renewable energy is the lack of equal treatment under the current tax credit bond system. The "Clean Renewable Energy Investment Act of 2010," brings parity to these providers by giving them the necessary tools to help solve the nation's energy problems while creating thousands of jobs. In 2005, Congress created the Clean Renewable Energy Bond ("CREB") program to provide the not-for-profit sector of the utility industry with a federal incentive to assist them in creating green jobs and developing renewable power generation. Many much needed improvements and modifications to the CREB program have been discovered through the practical application of the CREBS program over the past five years. This bill provides the much needed improvements to the CREB program, bringing the program's effectiveness in line with Congress's initial intent.

The bill contains four key provisions. First it provides parity with the Section 45 production tax credits. Second, it targets incentives to commercial scale projects. Third, it clarifies that tribal utilities may issue CREBs. Lastly, it includes important technical modifications to make CREBs more consistent with other types of existing tax credit bonds.

Ultimately, this bill enables these power providers to develop and own renewable resources directly, while ensuring that the full benefit of the federal incentive flows directly to electric consumers—resulting in lower costs to the consumers through the creation of green jobs and renewable energy.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE OHIO ASSOCIATION
OF REALTORS

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. TIBERI. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure I rise to recognize the 100th birthday of the Ohio Association of REALTORS (OAR).

Home ownership stands as a hallmark of the American way of life, and, for millions of working families throughout this nation's history, owning a home comprises a large part of achieving the American dream. At the core of this promise is the industry which helps make this dream a reality.

Realtors serve a vital role in the healthy propagation of homeownership; therefore, those who contribute to the furtherance of this profession are deserving of our thanks and recognition. The Ohio Association of REALTORS was created to help protect the investment Americans place in their homes, and for 100 years this fine organization has served with distinction. Where homeownership flourishes neighborhoods prosper, as residents are more civic-minded, schools stronger and streets safer.

For 100 years, the Ohio Association of REALTORS has worked to emphasize the value of home ownership and other property ownerships as well as property improvement across the state. Moreover, the OAR actively promotes a sense of civic responsibility and volunteerism with its over 35,000 members, while also pushing members to adhere to the National Association of REALTORS' stringent Code of Ethics.

Through commendable love of our community and fidelity to their craft, OAR serves a vital need in the state of Ohio. Therefore, in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the Ohio Association of REALTORS and in honor of all those individuals who serve their community as a realtor, I am proud to offer this recognition. As a former realtor, I am especially pleased to honor this fine organization for its service to our great state and the realty community.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE FLOURTOWN
FIRE COMPANY

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Flourtown Fire Company on the 100th Anniversary of their founding. Located in Springfield Township, this all-volunteer fire company serves not only the residents of Springfield, but also several surrounding communities.

When a local barn burnt down in 1910, a small group of dedicated citizens came together to form what would become the Flourtown Fire Company. From a modest start of a hand-drawn hose-cart stored in a barn to a modern firehouse with state-of-the-art life saving equipment, the Flourtown Fire Company has been a vital asset to the community.

The volunteers of the Flourtown Fire Company have relocated several times to accommodate their growing fleet. In 1983 the company opened its doors to women volunteers as well as men.

Over the past century the Flourtown Fire Company has demonstrated its commitment to protecting its neighbors numerous times. The Flourtown Fire Company is the home of station 6, Engine 6, Ladder 6, Squad 6, and Utility 6. The company's heroic work and valor has been recognized by the Montgomery County Firemen's Association for life saving efforts far above and beyond the call of duty. In 2003, the company added a Firefighter Assist and Search Team to help protect volunteers during rescue operations. The company also offers safety training courses and activities for children and families.

My constituents in the Springfield area are safer and more secure because of dedicated men and women like those who serve and support the Flourtown Fire Company. I am honored to represent the volunteers of the Flourtown Fire Company and the communities they serve.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the Flourtown Fire Company's 100 year celebration and wishing them many more years of faithful service to the community.